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ITW-14675

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:
Nicholas A. Matiash et al.

Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial Number: 10/820,996

Examiner: Clifford C. Shaw

Filed: 04/08/2004

Title: WIRE FEEDER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the references listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist or that the order of presentation of these materials in any way reflects their relative pertinence. The references cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that any of the items listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Date of Deposit: 12/09/2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sally A. Law

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In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, the references are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies are submitted herewith. The attached copies may have been pulled from Applicants' or assignee's file. Accordingly, some of the references may have written indicia thereon. It is requested that the Examiner ignore all such written indicia as such indicia may not be relevant to the instant case or may not be an accurate characterization of the reference.

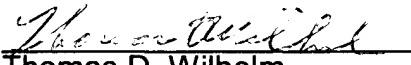
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of a first Office Action or within three months of the filing date of the referenced patent application. Accordingly, no fee is due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-2130.

It is Applicants' desire to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to review. Applicants, therefore, request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of each reference and make all references of record.

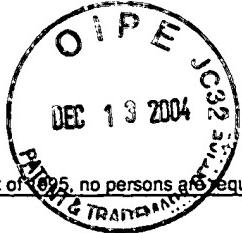
U.S. Patent Documents:

3,629,547	12/21/1971	Kester et al.
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Respectfully submitted,
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 Of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/820,996
Filing Date	04/08/2004
First Named Inventor	Nicholas A. Matiash et al.
Art Unit	1725
Examiner Name	Clifford C. Shaw
Attorney Docket Number	29759/ITW 14675

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbol as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-768-9199) and select option 2.